

## **Congressman Childers Votes to Shore Up Highway Trust Fund, Protect More Than 13,000 Jobs in Mississippi**

July 30, 2009

Washington, DC - Congressman Travis Childers (D-MS) joined a bipartisan majority of his colleagues yesterday in shoring up the Highway Trust Fund to keep the account solvent through the end of the fiscal year. The measure, which overwhelmingly passed in the House by a vote of 363 to 68, pumps \$389.2 million into Mississippi's highway program to support 13,536 jobs and save nearly 3,000 jobs that would have been at risk from a funding shortfall.

"Infrastructure projects are a huge creator and supporter of jobs, and without the funds to implement these projects, many hard-working Mississippians and their businesses would suffer," said Congressman Childers. "Because of this legislation, thousands of workers get to keep their jobs, and suppliers and contractors get to keep much-needed business. I am extremely pleased that this important bill passed, and I'll continue working to protect North Mississippi jobs and businesses during today's tough times."

The legislation also provides essential loans to the Unemployment Trust Fund (UTF) to meet a projected shortfall by early August. The loans are repayable with interest and the CBO has scored the legislation as having no cost to the Federal treasury. Without this action, 4.6 million workers could face losing unemployment benefits during August and September because State unemployment programs would be unable to access loans from the UTF.

*A pro-gun, pro-life Mississippian, Congressman Travis Childers (D-MS) represents the First Congressional District in North Mississippi. He is a member of the fiscally conservative Blue*

*Dog Coalition and serves on the House Agriculture and Financial Services Committee. Congressman Childers co-chairs the reestablished bipartisan Congressional Rural Caucus and was appointed to the bipartisan Second Amendment Task Force. For more information, visit <http://www.childers.house.gov/>*

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